(v) A four-week course on Equal Response Training for personnel deployed at Airports has been designed.

(vi) Training for trainers of personnel of Disaster Management has also been started.

(vii) Latest VHF radio sets and other communication equipments have been procured.

(viii) Modern weapons like Rifle 5.56 mm INSAS & Gun machine 5.56 mm (LNG) have been inducted in the Force.

Conditions of women prisoners in the country

4837. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parliamentary Committee on empowerment of women has fully criticised the inaction of the Home Ministry for remaining silent on the conditions of women prisoners in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has suggested that appropriate mechanism should be put in place by the Home Ministry and specific guidelines formulated to monitor the implementations of the recommendations by the State Government/ Union Territories to improve the basic facilities for women under detention;

(c) whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) The Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women presented their Third Original Report and Eleventh Action Taken Report on the subject, 'Women in Detention' to Lok Sabha on 24th August, 2002 and 11th March, 2003 respectively and laid the same in Rajya Sabha, simultaneously. Out of 20 recommendations, the Committee has accepted response of Government in respect of 12 (60%), decided not to pursue 3 (15%) in view of the replies of the Government and called for further compliance in respect of 5 (25%) recommendations.

(b) to (d) The Committee has observed that the Ministry of Home Affairs should make concerted efforts to ensure that their recommendations are implemented by all States and Union Territories and utilization of funds sanctioned for modernization of prisons monitored. The recommendations of the Committee have been forwarded to States/Union Territories for appropriate action. A detailed format has been prescribed to monitor the utilization of funds under the Prison Modernization Scheme.